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THE INTELLIGENCER.

WHEELING, DECEMBER 31, 1900.

The New Century.

At midnight to-night the twentieth

century will be ushered in and before

it life more possibilities than this much

abused world has ever seen or dreamed

of. The nineteenth century in passing

into history has been one of the most

remarkable periods since the beginning

of time, and the achievements accom-

plished within the one hundred years

drawing to a close would require vol-

umes upon volumes to recount. As ad-

vanced and marvelous as have been the

discoveries and inventions during this

time all the magic has not yet been

wrought, and we may expect to see

even the first year of the new century

reveal secrets that will out rival the

wonders man has already accomplish-

ed, and the revelations of the future

will exceed the mysteries of the con-

jurer and magician.

The dying century, nevertheless, has

left an impression on the world of an

undying character. The greatest

changes of a political character will be

found in the events that followed

Waterloo and Sedan in the old world

and the great questions settled in the

new world by the battles of Gettysburg

and Appomattox. The greatest

achievements of man have been the

harnessing of electricity and its var-

ious applications enter into almost

every economy of this life. Also the

more rapid methods of transportation

and the annihilation of time and space,

modes of swift communication with all

the peoples of the earth by the tele-

graph and telephone are majestic mon-

uments to the fertility of man's brain

and his ingenuity. We hear much of

the "lost arts," but more wonderful

still are the new found secrets.

Owing to Protection.

No state in the Union has fared so

well under the improved condition of

affairs as Kansas. And, it may be

said, that in no other state were the

conditions so depressing before pros-

perity manifested itself. The showing

made has much to do with the workings

of the Dingley tariff bill. The features

of this improvement are found in a

summary of the last crop bulletin of the

Kansas state board of agriculture for

1900, which gives the yield of wheat,

corn and oats and compares the amount

and value with 1899.

The total yield of winter wheat is

placed at 76,595,443 bushels, valued at

home at \$1,624,096; an excess over the

crop of 1899 of 33,779,972 bushels and

\$19,607,127 in value. The corn crop

amounts to 134,923,677 bushels, its value

being \$30,581,835; an amount less than

that of 1899 by 60,659,755 bushels and a

less value by \$13,948,741.

The yield of oats was 31,169,982 bush-

els, with a value of \$6,626,443. Notwith-

standing the falling off in the corn crop,

the value of wheat, corn and oats com-

bined is \$88,182,423, making an increase

of value over 1899 of \$7,233,801.

The total value of agricultural prod-

ucts of Kansas for 1900 is \$187,796,406;

total value of live stock \$143,457,753;

grand total, \$331,254,159. The net in-

crease in value of the agricultural pro-

ductions of Kansas over 1899 is \$17,948,

119 and of live stock \$10,400,661, making

a total net increase of \$28,448,780, or 3.35

per cent. In two years the increase in

value of agricultural products has been

\$35,877,578 and of live stock \$20,229,820,

or a total in 1899 and 1900 over the two

preceding years of \$68,107,398.

Business Conditions.

In commenting on the conditions that

have prevailed in the stock market the

past week Bradstreet notes the fact

that one of the factors which contrib-

ute powerfully to a continuance of a

bullish market is the comparatively

small amount of new securities which

have recently been created or which are

pressing on the market at the present

time. Under ordinary circumstances the

termination of an upward move-

ment in stock values is checked either

by an adverse money market, with high

rates of interest, or by the appearance

of a larger amount of new corporate

securities than the public can absorb.

The latter was one of the chief reasons

for the very severe check which the

market received in 1899, and it was at

the time fully appreciated that the cre-

ation of new industrial corporations, in-

volving the issue of hundreds of mil-

lions of new shares, was at the bottom

of the depression which succeeded the

rising market.

Quite an interesting event this week

will be the distribution on Wednesday

of \$175,000,000 in interest and dividends

as a result of the unparalleled prosper-

ity of the country. This will be the

largest disbursement of the character

ever made in the financial history of the

country. If this amount were distrib-

uted per capita, every citizen of all the

states and territories, including Haw-

aii, would receive a fraction less than

\$2 30. It is estimated that this large

sum of money will find its way into the

pockets of only about 12,000,000 persons.

If it were distributed equally between

those who will share in it, each stock

and bondholder and savings bank de-

positor would receive about \$14 60.

Bryan and Cleveland.

Bryan and Cleveland are in the same

class in one respect, that of selling their

views on the Democratic party. The

ex-President so far, is a few points

ahead of Bryan, but when the latter has

the Commoner in working order there

will be an unceasing flow of advice from

that source Cleveland cannot hope to

keep up with. Mr. Bryan is rapidly ac-

cumulating a "pile" by running for that

office. Bryan's professional candidacy

for the presidency has been very profit-

able if we are to believe a Lincoln dis-

patch to the New York Journal, an or-

gan of Bryanism, which states that he

made \$250,000 in the four years follow-

ing his nomination in 1896—\$50,000 more

than he would have drawn as salary

had he been elected to the presidency.

The Philadelphia Press in comment-

ing on the thrift of the apostle of calm-

ity, remarks that "in a financial sense

he was many times better off as a de-

feated candidate than Mr. McKinley

was as the successful candidate. Bryan

got large sums delivering lectures;

according to his own word he never ac-

cepted less than \$1,000 a hour. His book

paid him well, and altogether he was

very fortunate in accumulating gold by

the simple process of preaching in favor

of an impossible monetary system that

would, he said, make fifty cents' worth

of silver equal a gold dollar.

Mr. Bryan starts out after his second

defeat in a way that indicates even

greater financial success than followed

his first defeat. He has stated that he

intends soon to begin the publication of

a weekly journal, and the announce-

ment of his purpose has been freely ad-

vertised without charge to him over all

the United States. As a result, over

1,000 subscriptions were sent him the

day after the announcement was made,

and he got 2,500 more within the next

two days, and the latest report is that

they are coming in at the rate of a

thousand a day. It is said that several

Democratic state organizations are to

use their machinery to secure subscrip-

tions for Bryan's paper.

Here is a hint of money for the

claimant. A weekly paper can be got

out in Lincoln, Neb., very cheaply. Mr.

Bryan is valuable enough to write a suf-

ficient quantity of matter to fill up the

entire paper every week without em-

ploying any editorial assistant. He pro-

poses to continue his \$1,000-an-hour

lecture work, and if he doesn't make hay

while the sun shines it won't be his

fault.

Nobody can blame Mr. Bryan. He

knows what he is about, and as he has

got practically the entire Democratic

party for gudgeons he can well afford

to laugh while Cleveland and others talk

about "reorganization." The more

they talk the more papers Bryan will

sell containing his views on any subject

they may bring up. By the time the

Democratic party gets ready to drop

Mr. Bryan he will have a few national

banks of his own to keep him busy for

the rest of his life."

Prosperity of Railroads.

No other prosperity has benefited so

largely by the good times that have

prevailed the past three years than the

railroads. This is shown in the prelimi-

nary report on the income account of

the railways in the United States for

the year ending June 30, 1900, furnished

by the statistician of the Interstate

commerce commission. The statement

contains returns of operating railway

companies representing 190,106.99 miles

of line. The gross earnings of the rail-

ways included in this report were \$1,-

450,673,654, or \$7.76 per mile of line. Of

these earnings \$256,360,760 were classed

as passenger earnings and \$1,048,268,876

as freight earnings. The gross earnings

shown in the final report for the prece-

ding year were \$1,313,610,118. Operating